

<b>Activity:</b>	<b>State Conservation Grants</b>
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**Activity Summary**

Program Component	2003 Enacted	2004 Enacted	FY 2005			Change From 2004 (+/-)
			Uncontr/ Related Changes	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
State Conservation Grants	94,383	91,360	0	0	91,360	0
<b>Total Requirements</b>	<b>94,383</b>	<b>91,360</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>91,360</b>	<b>0</b>

**Authorization**

16 U.S.C. 460l et.seq. Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act of 1965, as amended

**DOI Outcome Goals Applicable to State Conservation Grants****Resource Protection****1.1 Improve Health of Watersheds, Landscapes, and Marine Resources**

State Conservation Grants contribute to this goal by acquiring land in the interest of conserving natural resources to restore and maintain proper function to watersheds and landscapes including acquisitions to help partners mitigate outside influences on resources.

**1.2 Sustain Biological Communities**

State Conservation Grants contribute to this goal by acquiring land in the interest of protecting habitat for specific species or to enhance conditions for entire biological communities.

**1.3 Protect Cultural and Natural Heritage Resources**

State Conservation Grants contribute to this goal by acquiring land to reduce degradation and protect cultural and natural heritage resources.

**Recreation****3.1 Provide for a Quality Recreation Experience, including access and enjoyment of natural and cultural resources**

State Conservation Grants contribute to this goal by acquiring land to improve capacities to provide access for recreation.

**Serving Communities****4.1 Protect Lives, Resources and Property**

State Conservation Grants contribute to this goal by acquiring land to protect resources and/or facilities from degradation.

**FY 2005 Base Program Overview**

**The State Conservation Grants** activity provides matching grants to States, and through States, to local units of government for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities that provide public access to lands, waters and other recreation resources. The grants provide incentives for continuing State outdoor recreation planning and for greater commitments by State governments to conservation and improvement of recreation resources at every level, emphasizing the role of States and localities in a nationwide recreation system. Every project acquired or developed is protected in perpetuity. Through this partnership with States and local governments, providing recreation opportunity while preserving these areas for future generations can often be accomplished in a more timely and cost-effective way than through Federal action. Nearly 40,000 grants have been awarded since the program was established, with a value of approximately \$3.5 billion.

**Use of Cost and Performance Information: Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Program**

During 2003, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) State Assistance Program underwent a PART review which revealed that the program is lacking appropriate measures for identification of program performance. State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Offices determine statewide recreation needs and set funding priorities without any consistent national guidance from NPS on how to report program outcomes. Recreation priorities of a State and of its local governmental entities must be consistent with priorities as identified in the required Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

The PART analysis revealed that there is no method for measuring State performance in meeting program objectives and recommended that steps be taken to identify appropriate measures. Because of the PART findings, during 2004 NPS will work with the National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers and identify appropriate performance measures for implementation. Initial contacts with the states have been made and NPS will form a committee of Federal and State LWCF staff to develop and recommend appropriate measures by the beginning of FY 2005.

Over the life of the program, LWCF funding has assisted more than 39,000 state planning, acquisition and development projects and an estimated 32,000 park sites in more than 98 percent of the Nation's counties. An important provision of the LWCF Act of 1965 is that each assisted site remain in public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity.

While NPS has been successful in assuring protection of this legacy, it has not previously collected data on the total protected acreage. One initiative implemented effective October 1, 2003, as a result of the PART review, is collection of acreage data on all newly assisted sites with the goal of ultimately acquiring such data for previously assisted sites as well. This data will be used to better measure how the objectives of the Act are being met as well as the extent of the legacy being protected.

**Use of the Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART)**

PART reviews were conducted on the following NPS program areas for the FY 2005 Budget Request:

<b>Reviewed Program Area</b>	<b>FY 2005 PART Score</b>
<b>Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) State Grants</b>	<b>25% (first review)</b>

Part evaluations and recommendations continue to inform both budget formulation and program management decisions. In FY 2005 request for grants administration of the LWCF State assistance program is the same level of funding as FY 2004. The PART review identified several areas where improvements with respect to measuring performance and showing results should be made, and funding will remain level for this program until results are demonstrated.

*Performance summary tables are found at the end of this Appropriation.*

**FY 2003 Program Performance Accomplishments****Performance on NPS strategic goals:**

- 13,000 acres acquired and protected in perpetuity
- 670 new and existing recreation resources and open space sites acquired and/or developed and protected in perpetuity

**Other Program Accomplishments:**

Significant aspects of the Fiscal Year 2003 program include:

- Awarding of 575 new grants

- 50 percent match by States thereby doubling the recreation investment
- Benefiting recreation sites include picnic areas and campgrounds, sports and playfields, swimming facilities, fishing and boating, trails, natural areas, and passive parks

### **FY 2004 Planned Program Performance**

#### **Performance on NPS strategic goals:**

- Acquiring 10,000 acres, thereby preserving open spaces, natural areas, and public parkland

#### **Other Program Accomplishments:**

It is anticipated that by the end of Fiscal year 2004, the grants program accomplishments will include:

- Awarding 550 new grants, to protect new recreation resources and open space sites in perpetuity
- Securing 50 percent match by States thereby doubling the recreation investment

### **Justification of FY 2004 Budget Request: State Conservation Grants**

<b>Request Component</b>	<b>Amount</b>
FY 2004 Budget Estimate	91,360
<b>TOTAL, Program Changes</b>	<b>No Change</b>
Uncontrollable changes	No Change
<b>FY 2003 Budget Request</b>	<b>91,360</b>
Net change	No Change

### **Activity Performance Summary:**

**End Outcome Goal 3.1: Provide Recreation for America.** Provide for a quality recreation experience, including access and enjoyment of natural and cultural resources on DOI managed or partnered lands and waters

<b>Recreation goals: Provide for recreation</b>	<b>FY 2002 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2003 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2004 Plan/ Budget</b>	<b>2004 Revised Final Plan</b>	<b>FY 2005 Request</b>	<b>Change in Perform- ance 2004 to Planned 2005</b>	<b>Long- term Target (2008)</b>
<b>Intermediate Outcome:</b> Improve capacities to provide access for recreation where appropriate <b>Intermediate Outcome Measures (Key and Non-Key) and PART Outcome Measures)</b>							
Recreational opportunities: Number of acres made available for recreation through management actions and partnerships (SP)	67,350 partners	13,000 partners	NA	10,000 partners	10,000 partners	0	8,000 est
L&WCF Grants: Number of acres made available for outdoor recreation through L&WCF grants. (PART LW-3, annual output)	NA	NA	Not in plan <sup>1</sup>	Report actual	Report actual	NA	Report actual

Also see NR&P Recreation Programs and Natural Programs.

<sup>1</sup> This goal did not appear in the FY 2004 budget presentation. It has been added to link with DOI goals, to meet NPS needs or is a PART measure not previously reported.